

BARNARD CASTLE URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1964

A. S. M. WILSON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.,
L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.

BARNARD CASTLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Woodleigh,
Barnard Castle.

15th July, 1965.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I now submit to you my Annual Report for 1964.

The Vital Statistics of the district are generally satisfactory.

I would thank Members of the Council for suggestions and help throughout the year. I also continued to enjoy the advice and co-operation of the family doctors in the District.

I am indebted to Mr. Dixon for preparing Section II of this Report.

Yours respectfully,

A. S. M. WILSON.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

A. S. M. WILSON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H. (part-time).

Public Health Inspector:

EDGAR DIXON, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H. (full-time).

S E C T I O N I

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (Acreage)	559
Population (Registrar General's Estimated Figure mid-year 1964)	5,420
Sum represented by a penny rate	£544. 3. 0.
Rateable Value as at 1.4.64	£140,310.

Main Local Industries

Glaxo Laboratories Limited employed 647 people during 1964, and are concerned with the manufacture of antibiotics and vitamins by fermentation processes, together with the handling of antibiotics in bulk filling, packing and despatch thereof. This is the main industry and employment in the district.

Other industrial establishments in the district are concerned with engineering and ironfounding, the manufacture of gloves, and the manufacture of concrete and artificial stone products, and egg and poultry packing.

Climatic Conditions

Table showing RAINFALL in inches in 1963 and 1964
Compiled from figures received from the Bowes Museum

	<u>1963</u> <u>Inches</u>	<u>1964</u> <u>Inches</u>
January	2.11	.67
February	1.97	1.09
March	2.69	4.28
April	2.05	2.02
May	.96	1.19
June	4.54	1.90
July	1.53	1.66
August	3.62	1.71
September	3.39	1.60
October	1.81	.82
November	6.06	1.58
December	1.18	3.57
	<u>31.91</u>	<u>22.09</u>
Average Rainfall 5 years 1960 - 1964		29.76
		22.09 1964
		31.91 1963
		25.43 1962
		29.77 1961
		39.63 1960

Vital Statistics - 1964

	Males			Females		
	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit.
Live Births	58	57	1	55	52	3
Still Births	1	1	-	-	-	-
Deaths of Infants						
Under 1 year of age	1	1	-	1	1	-
Under 4 weeks of age	-	-	-	1	1	-
Under 1 week of age	-	-	-	1	1	-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
All causes of death	47	49	96

Main Causes:

Cardio vascular:-

(a) Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	11	19
(b) Coronary disease - angina	6	8	14
(c) Other heart disease	4	3	7
(d) Other circulatory diseases	<u>14</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>25</u>
Totals	<u>32</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>65</u>

Cancer:-

(a) Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1	3
(b) Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
(c) Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
(d) Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>
Totals	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>

Chest Diseases:-

(a) Bronchitis	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>
Totals	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>

Other Causes:

Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	2	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	2	3
All other Accidents	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
Totals	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>

The main causes of death in the district during the year were diseases of the heart and circulatory system 65, cancer 12, and diseases of the respiratory system 8, in that order.

Live-birth Rate - 20.9 per 1,000 home population.
Adjusted Rate - 22.5 per 1,000 home population.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 18.4 per 1,000 home population.

Still-birth Rate - 8.8 per 1,000 total births.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 16.3 per 1,000 total births.

Death-rate - 17.7 per 1,000 home population.
Adjusted Rate - 12.8 per 1,000 home population.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 11.3 per 1,000 home population.

Death-rate all infants - 17.7 per 1,000 live-births.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 20.0 per 1,000 live-births.

A. Hospitals

The Richardson Hospital opened on 3rd February, 1965 with 21 beds available for family doctor and central preconvalescent use. Further extension proposals are at the planning stage, and it is hoped that the number of beds will be increased. This Hospital has already proved to be a valuable asset to the community.

B. Laboratories.

Public Health Laboratories are available at Northallerton and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The Laboratory is situated in the General Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Facilities are also provided at Bishop Auckland General Hospital. Pathological Department, for urgent bacteriological examinations.

C. County Council Services.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for providing summaries of work carried out by the following services.

Ambulance Facilities.

Barnard Castle urban and rural districts are served by two ambulance depots, two ambulances and four driver-attendants.

	<u>Journeys</u>	<u>Stretcher</u> <u>cases</u>	<u>Sitting</u> <u>cases</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>cases</u>	<u>Mileage</u>
1960	1,185	609	4,741	5,350	67,706
1961	1,055	506	4,511	5,017	62,835
1962	1,081	519	4,724	5,243	61,010
1963	1,130	563	4,671	5,234	64,681
1964	1,160	628	4,959	5,587	67,544

In addition to the above, patients residing in the urban and rural districts are also conveyed by vehicles from neighbouring depots and by the Darlington Ambulance Service, as occasion demands. Records are not maintained in sanitary district order and information regarding these cases cannot be conveniently supplied.

Home Nursing and Midwifery Service.

Staff: 2 District Nurse Midwives.

Miss L. H. Dodd, 4, Montgomery Road, Barnard Castle. Tel.No.

Bd. Castle 2149.

Mrs. M.L. Morton, 3, Harmire Road, Barnard Castle. Tel.No.Bd.Castle 3156.

Midwifery Service.

No. of Midwifery and Maternity Cases 75

No. of Hospital patients discharged before the 10th day 19

Home Nursing Service

<u>Cases</u>	<u>Patients</u>	<u>Visits</u>
Medical	79	1,506
Surgical	15	472
Tuberculosis	1	25
Grand Total	95	2,003
Cases included in the above total aged 65 years of age or over	72.6	73.7
Cases included in the above total under 5 years of age	1.1	0.35

There is a small Nursing Home at 32, Bede Road, (Proprietress - Hilda Smurthwaite, S.R.N., S.C.M.,) chiefly for maternity cases.

Health Visiting.

The number of health visitors in the area is two.

Domiciliary Visits.

Total number of visits paid	...	...	...	1,818
1. Maternity and child welfare	..	...	...	1,325
2. Tuberculosis	...	...	...	19
3. General Health	...	...	...	-
4. Mentally subnormal	...	...	...	32
5. School	...	...	...	146
6. Aged people	...	...	...	112

Summary

Ineffective visits	...	...	...	184
Total number of visits	...	...	...	1,818
Number of effective visits	...	...	...	1,634
Time (as days) spent on visits				
(routine, other and ineffective)	...	...	...	90
Average daily number of effective visits				
per health visitor	...	...	...	18

Clinic, etc., work

Time (as days) spent

(a) at maternity and child welfare centres	...	...	...	24
(b) at chest clinics	...	...	...	-
(c) at school head to head inspections				
and school clinics	...	...	...	4
(d) at school medical inspections and				
special schools	...	...	...	10

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

An Infant Welfare Clinic and a School Clinic are held on alternate weeks at the Trinity Methodist Schoolroom, Barnard Castle, under the administration of the County Council. (See Appendix II).

Domestic Help Service.

Cases attended 1.1.64	...	...	...	8
New cases during the year	...	...	...	7
Cases terminated during the year	...	...	...	8
Cases attended 31.12.64	...	...	...	7
Number of Home Helps employed during the year	...	...	...	7

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Protection against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus, is available from family doctors and at child welfare centres.

Polio protection is available up to the age of 40 and to certain priority groups over that age. The vaccine may be had either by injection or by mouth.

During 1964 the immunisation of school entrants was continued. This work was carried out within the schools on a sessional basis and is reflected in the general immunisation statistics for the area.

Poliomyelitis. (Combined urban/rural district).

Primary Immunisation.

Age Group	Number of persons who have received		Total
	Second injection of Salk Vaccine	Third dose of Oral Vaccine	
(a) Children born in 1964	1	34	35
(b) Children born in 1963	13	126	139
(c) Children born in 1962	4	51	55
(d) Children born in 1961	1	15	16
(e) Children and young persons: born in years 1943-60	-	79	79
(f) Young persons born in years 1933-42	2	6	8
(g) Others	-	6	6
(h) Total	21	317	338

Reinforcing Immunisation.

(a) Number of persons given third injections of Salk Vaccine	11
(b) Number of persons given fourth injections of Salk Vaccine	3
(c) Number of persons given a reinforcing dose of oral vaccine after:	(i) 2 Salk doses 8
	(ii) 3 Salk doses or 3 Oral doses or 2 Salk doses + 2 Oral doses 412

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus.

	No. given Primary Course			No. given Booster dose		
	Under 5 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	Total	Under 5 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	Total
Diphtheria	75	9	84	3	42	45
Whooping Cough	92	-	92	3	4	7
Tetanus	75	9	84	3	15	18

B.C.G. Vaccination.

During 1964 protection against tuberculosis continued to be offered in accordance with County Council policy to all school children aged 11 years and over.

A skin test is carried out first to see whether or not a child has developed a degree of natural immunity. A negative reaction indicates the need for protection, and vaccination is then carried out.

The following figures show the work carried out during 1964.

School	Parental Consents	At skin testing		At reading		At vaccination	
		Tested	Absent	Positive	Negative	Absent	
						Vac-cinated	Not Vac-cinated
County	72	72	-	1	71	-	65 6

Children who are absent, or not vaccinated for such medical reasons as intercurrent infection, skin conditions, etc., are usually taken up at a succeeding session.

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during recent years

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	1	10
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	3	215	81	12	76
Whooping Cough	2	4	2	29	8
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	1	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	-	2	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-

Tuberculosis

During 1964 one new case of respiratory tuberculosis was notified, a male aged 21 years. No deaths occurred due to tuberculosis.

Infective Hepatitis.

Detailed reports have been made to you during 1964 in respect of an outbreak of infective jaundice. This infection has a very long incubation period and progresses slowly; the main control resting upon good hygiene in association with sanitary apparatus. The disease is not officially notifiable but family doctor voluntary notification has been of a consistently high order. One hopes that in the future some protective vaccination or curative drug may become available which would eliminate the possibility of any similar outbreak.

CAUSES OF DEATH

Cause of Death	Sex	Total	Under	4 weeks	Age in Years									
		All Ages	4 weeks	and under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over	
Malignant Neoplasm	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	
Lung, Bronchus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Malignant Neoplasm	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Breast	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Malignant Neoplasm														
Uterus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Other Malignant	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	
and Lymphatic	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	
Neoplasms														
Vascular lesions	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	
of Nervous System	F	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	6	
Coronary Disease,	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	3	
Angina	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	4	
Other Heart	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	
Disease	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	
Other Circulatory	M	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	8	
Disease	F	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	9	
Bronchitis	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Gastritis,														
Enteritis and	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Diarrhoea	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Nephritis and	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nephrosis	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Other Defined and	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Ill-defined	F	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Diseases														
Motor Vehicle	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
Accidents	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
All other	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Accidents	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	47	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	4	13	26	
	F	49	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	11	27	

Attendances at Child Welfare Centres during the year ended 31st December, 1964.

CENTRE	Attendances				Consultations			
	No. on books from 1-1-64		Number		Average per session		Number	
			Children				Children	
Barnard Castle	-	Expectant Mothers			-	Expectant Mothers		
	38	Under 1 year			396	Under 1 year		
	38	Between 1 - 2 years			57	Between 1 - 2 years		
	17	Between 2 - 5 years			16	Between 2 - 5 years		
	-	Expectant Mothers			-	Expectant Mothers		
					16	Under 1 year		
					2	Between 1 - 2 years		
					1	Between 2 - 5 years		
	-	Expectant Mothers			-	Expectant Mothers		
	133	Under 1 year			133	Under 1 year		
	34	Between 1 - 2 years			34	Between 1 - 2 years		
	6	Between 2 - 5 years			6	Between 2 - 5 years		
	-	Expectant Mothers			-	Expectant Mothers		
	6	Under 1 year			6	Under 1 year		
	2	Between 1 - 2 years			2	Between 1 - 2 years		
	1	Between 2 - 5 years			1	Between 2 - 5 years		

SECTION III.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH CIRCUMSTANCES.

Water Supply.

The water supply was maintained by the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board during the year. Difficulty was experienced in maintaining adequate pressure to the houses in the higher part of the town. The Board have a scheme prepared to lay a 12" water main from their filter beds at Lartington to the water mains at the top of the town, in the interim period they propose to join two of their existing mains to increase the pressure where difficulty is experienced.

Closet Accommodation.

All properties are on the water carriage system of sewage disposal except four properties which are situated some distance from the Council's sewers, the pail closets serving these properties are emptied regularly by the Council.

Housing.

Slum Clearance.

The statutory return of unfit houses which the Council submitted to the Minister under the Housing Repairs and Rent Act, 1954, covering the Council's programme for five years from 1st August, 1955, covered 84 dwellings.

Progress made in this Slum Clearance programme at 31st December, 1964, is as follows:-

No. of houses in Confirmed Clearance Areas	60
No. of houses subject to Demolition Orders	10
Closing Orders made since the report	18
Houses demolished during the year as a result of Slum Clearance scheme or other formal action	3
Houses closed but not demolished	16
Houses in Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses, demolition of which temporarily postponed	2

Improvement Grants. Housing Acts 1949-1959.

Applications submitted during 1964 to Local Authority	6
Applications refused during 1964 by Local Authority	Nil
Total number of applications approved since inception of the scheme	89
Total number of grants paid since inception of scheme	83

New Dwellings.

Four houses were completed by the North Eastern Housing Association Ltd., and eight privately built dwellings were completed during the year.

Future Development by the Council.

The dwellings being built to replace 76 and 78, Galgate, 7, 9, 16, 18 and 20, Thorngate, were well advanced at the end of the year.

Plans to develop an estate for 87 houses on Green Lane extension were well advanced and plans for rebuilding on the site of Dunelm Square and allotments behind Zetland Road were taking shape.

The number of applicants on the Council's housing list at the end of the year was 138 compared with 120 at the end of 1963.

Provision of Dwellings by the Local Authority.

	Owners	Situation	No. of Bedrooms				
			1	2	3	4	Total
Pre 1939	Barnard Castle U.D.C.	Dunelm Square	4	13	6	2	25
	North Eastern Housing Association Limited	Dunelm Square	10	-	-	-	10
		Dawson Road	-	22	14	8	44
		Total Pre 1939	14	35	20	10	79
Post 1939	Barnard Castle U.D.C.	Victoria Road	-	-	12	-	12
	North Eastern Housing Association Limited	Zetland Road	-	20	28	6	54
		Montalbo Road Estate	8	-	82	12	102
		Zetland Road Extension	6	20	13	-	39
		Green Lane Site	8	76	80	12	176
		The Bank Redevelopment	-	1	5	1	7
		Thorngate "	2	-	3	-	5
		Bridgegate "	-	22	32	-	54
		Total Post 1939	24	139	255	31	449
		GRAND TOTAL	38	174	275	41	528

Confirmed Clearance Areas.

One dwelling in a clearance area made before 1939 was standing empty during the year. Three houses in Guy's Yard, Market Place, were demolished during the year.

Factories and Workshops.

One notification from the Factory Inspector was received during the year. This received attention without formal action.

Six outworkers are employed finishing gloves in the area. All the premises in which they work are satisfactory.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269.

The licence to station 20 tents on land at Orchard Brae, Flatts Wood was renewed during the year. This site is increasingly used and is always kept in very good order.

A licence to use a temporary dwelling on Prospect Place Camping Site was renewed during the year. This site has water supply from the mains, W.C. and drainage to the Council's sewer within 4 yards of the temporary dwelling.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Red Well Inn, Harmire Road.

A caravan in permanent occupation has been on this site for a number of years. A licence for this is held by the owner of the caravan.

The remainder of the site is licensed for twenty holiday caravans for use between 1st March and 31st October each year. This site has been maintained in a fairly satisfactory condition during the holiday season.

Prospect Place Caravan Site.

This site in permanent occupation by seventeen caravans was licensed during the year. Each standing has its own drainage connected to the Council's sewer, a W.C., refuse storage bin and piped water supply from the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board's mains. Communal washing facilities together with fire fighting equipment, hard standings and a tarmacadam surfaced road, was maintained in a fairly satisfactory condition during the year.

Rodent Control.

Only part of the Council's sewers together with the refuse tip and sewage farm were treated during the year. Private buildings and business premises were treated on complaint.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Thirty-two retailers in the town sell pre-packed ice-cream.

Slaughterhouses.

The four slaughterhouses at present licensed are:-

<u>Slaughterhouse</u>	<u>Licence Holder</u>
1. Vere Road, Barnard Castle	Mr. W.H. Foster
2. Rear of 54, Galgate, Barnard Castle	Messrs. W. Peat (B.C.) Ltd.
3. Birch Road, Barnard Castle	Mr. F.A. Youngs
4. Rear of 46, The Bank, Barnard Castle	Mr. R.C. Jackson

The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.

The Council in September, 1963, made reciprocal arrangements with the Barnard Castle Rural District Council for the maintenance of full meat inspection during periods of holiday and sickness of the Inspector.

The Council made no charge for meat inspection during the year, but resolved to charge for this service from 1st April, 1965.

More than half of the slaughtering in the area is done by part-time slaughtermen outside normal office hours.

Animals Slaughtered

The following table shows the animals killed, inspected and found unfit for human consumption at the Slaughterhouses during the year ending 31st December, 1964.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	882	2	52	2305	851
Number inspected	882	2	52	2305	851
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Part of carcase or organ condemned	110	-	-	34	139
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	12.47	-	-	1.65	16.33
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Part of carcase or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Submitted for refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalized and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Refuse Tip

The refuse is being disposed of on the tip at Shaw Bank, and tipping is continuing in a north westerly direction and part of the filled area was covered with soil and reseeded during the year.

The reseeded area, together with the land acquired for and not yet needed for the refuse tip, are let off for grazing nine months each year.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

During a thunder storm, flooding occurred in certain cellars in Galgate. A sewer near where this flooding occurred was found to have its flow restricted by tree roots, these were removed. No further trouble has been experienced in this area, but no comparable thunder storms have occurred after the roots were removed.

The relief surface water drainage from the Zetland Road, Green Lane area mentioned in last year's report on the extensions needed at the sewage works progressed during the year.